

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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WAYS AND MEANS



**REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON**  
House District 35

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November 29, 2005

Commissioner Mike Barton  
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
3132 Channel Drive  
Juneau, AK 99801

*Mike*

Deputy Commissioner John MacKinnon  
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
3132 Channel Drive  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Commissioner Barton and Deputy Commissioner MacKinnon,

I want to thank you for the work that your department has done to improve highway safety along the Sterling Highway by the application of rumble strips at Milepost 52 (Gwin's Corner) and MP 168 (Baycrest Curve). It is our hope that these interim measures will alleviate some of the dangers along this road until these segments are reconstructed.

In viewing the Draft 2006-2008 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) list I was disappointed at the exclusion of several important projects in District 35. In District 35 seven projects that were on both the 2001-2003 STIP, and the 2004-2006 STIP were excluded from the Draft 2006-2008 STIP. These projects are as follows:

1. Sterling Highway MP 157 to 169 Reconstruction Anchor Point to Baycrest Hill
2. Homer: Bunnell Street/Ohlsen Lane Rehabilitation
3. Homer: Freight Dock Road Rehabilitation
4. Homer: East End Road MP 14 to 23 Rehabilitation
5. Sterling Highway MP 45-60 Reconstruction Sunrise to Skilak Lake Rd
6. Seward Highway Milepost 25.5 to 36 Reconstruction Trail River to Sterling Wye
7. Seldovia Airport Avenue Paving and Pedestrian Facilities

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It is my understanding that the Draft 2006-2008 STIP was drawn up with considerations of the SAFTEA-LU earmarks that would result in reductions to funding of existing programs. These programs have historically provided funding for STIP projects. With the large bridge earmarks withdrawn some of these funds will most likely be redirected. It is my hope that the final 2006-2008 STIP can be written to retain these seven vital District 35 projects that were on the 2004-2006 STIP. This would fulfill the Governor's commitment that the STIP only include priority projects and that they should all be completed.

The need for these projects has been clearly demonstrated by their placement on the STIP for years. Please give due consideration to the STIP process and place these long established projects back on the list.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Seaton". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Representative Paul Seaton  
Alaska State Legislature  
House District 35

